

Docket No.: 50435-015 (P2145/AES)

#19/E
KWS
PATENT
12-6-00

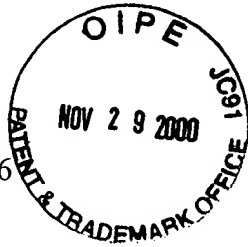
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

LI GONG

Serial No.: 08/883,636

Filed: June 26, 1997



Group Art Unit: 2767

Examiner: D. Meislahn

For: LAYER-INDEPENDENT SECURITY FOR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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The following amendment and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 29, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for providing communication protocol layer independent security for data transmitted between a first process, executing on a first network node, and a second process, executing on a second network node, wherein the first network node and the second network node each support at least one common communication protocol layer, the method comprising the steps of:

[a]]establishing a communication channel between the first network node and the second network node;

[b]]establishing a first stream between the first process and the communication channel;